

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Pursuant to Section 19.84 Wis. Stats, a regular meeting of the **Brown County Human Services Board** was held on Thursday, August 13, 2015 in in Board Room A of the Sophie Beaumont Building – 111 North Jefferson Street, Green Bay, WI

Present: Chairman Tom Lund
Carole Andrews, Craig Huxford, Bill Clancy, Susan Hyland, Paula Laundrie,
Helen Smits, JoAnn Grashberger

Also Present: Erik Pritzl, Executive Director
Luke Schubert, Hospital & Nursing Home Administrator
Eric Johnson, Finance Manager
Lana Cheslock, Children, Youth & Families Manager
Gena Schupp, Child Protection Supervisor
John Bushmaker, Child Protection Supervisor
Kevin Brennan, Child Protection Supervisor
Lauren Krukowski, Child Protection Supervisor
Melinda Mommaerts, Child Protection Supervisor

1. **Call Meeting to Order:**
The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom Lund at 5:15 pm.

2. **Approve/Modify Agenda:**
GRASCHBERGER/HYLAND moved to approve the agenda.
The motion was passed unanimously.

3. **Approve Minutes of July 9, 2015 Human Services Board Meeting:**
LAUNDRIE/HYLAND moved to approve the minutes dated July 9, 2015.
The motion was passed unanimously.

4. **Executive Director's Report:**
Executive Director Pritzl included his written report with the agenda.
HUXFORD/ANDREWS moved to receive and place on file.
Motion was carried unanimously.

4. **Presentation re: Child Protection:**
The board was given a handout from the Child Protection Unit (attached). Children, Youth & Families Manager Cheslock gave an overview. Cheslock as well as the five Child Protection Supervisors gave the presentation. They took a case from the referral through current state.
HUXFORD/ANDREWS moved to receive and place on file.
Motion was carried unanimously.

6. Administrator Report (CTC):

The Bay Haven Admission Criteria, the NPC monthly report and the QAPI summary report were submitted with the board packet agenda.

LAUNDRIE/GRASCHBERGER moved to approve the Bay Haven admission criteria. Motion was carried unanimously.

HUXFORD/HYLAND moved to receive items 6b and 6c and place on file. Motion was carried unanimously.

7. Financial Report:

A financial report was submitted with the board packet agenda.

GRASCHBERGER/HYLAND moved to receive and place on file. Motion was carried unanimously.

8. Statistical Reports:

Please refer to the packet which includes this information.

9. Approval for New Non-Continuous Vendor:

Please refer to the packet which includes this information.

10. Approval for New Vendor Contract:

Please refer to the packet which includes this information.

11. Other Matters:

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 10, 2015
5:15 p.m. – Community Treatment Center, Room 365

12. Adjourn Business Meeting:

LAUNDRIE/ANDREWS moved to adjourn; motion passed unanimously. Chairman Lund adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kara Navin
Office Manager

Brown County Child Protection Overview

Brown County Child Protection continues to adjust to the ever changing needs of the community with regards to child safety. Although we have seen consistency in the number of child neglect and abuse referrals since the initial rise in 2011-2012, we are still significantly impacted by this increase. From 2013 to 2015 there was an immediate impact on the initial assessment unit as a result of the spike in referrals. Subsequently, during this same time frame, we have seen a consistent rise in the amount of ongoing cases and are reaching a breaking point of our ability and capacity to maintain at the level needed to adhere to Wisconsin Standards and Statutes.

Purpose and Scope of Child Protective Services

Child Protective Services (CPS) is a specialized field of the Child Welfare System. CPS intervention is warranted whenever there is a report that a child may be unsafe, abused or neglected, or be at risk of abuse or neglect. The purpose of the CPS system is to identify and alter family conditions that make children unsafe or place them at risk for abuse or neglect. The scope of Child Protective Services includes Access, Initial Assessment, and Ongoing Services. CPS is an integrated system of intervention that identifies conditions that make children unsafe or that put children at risk of abuse or neglect and then provides services to families to assure that children are safe and protected. CPS accomplishes this by receiving and responding to reports of abuse or neglect, conducting initial and family assessments, developing and implementing protective, safety and case plans, and providing services and case management until cases can be safely closed. The goal of the child protective services system is to support parents/caregivers in making necessary changes to assure that their children are safe and protected.

Child Protection is guided by Standards set forth by the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families. Embodied in these Standards are the following beliefs:

- All children deserve protection and a safe, permanent home. Public agencies are charged with responsibility to conduct a thorough initial assessment in response to screened in Child Protective Service reports in order to assure that children are safe and protected.
- Parents/caregivers are viewed as the primary authorities in the family and are most accountable for safety and security within the family home. A collaborative relationship between CPS and parents/caregivers is based on the principles of respect, honesty, equity, and self-determination.
- CPS is a government intervention. The primary function of initial assessment is to identify families who require support and services to assure child safety and protection.
- When a child has been maltreated by an individual outside of the family, CPS acts as consultants and advocates for the parents/caregivers in meeting their child's need.

CPS Access & Initial Assessment

CPS Access means the function of the agency to gather information leading to a determination of the need for CPS intervention. This function determines screen in or screen out of cases.

Screen in/screen out means the decision to accept or not accept a report of alleged child maltreatment or threatened maltreatment for assessment/investigation, based on whether the allegation, if true, meets statutory definitions of child maltreatment and threatened maltreatment. A report that is "screened in" is accepted for assessment/investigation. A report that is "screened out" is closed without an assessment/investigation.

Initial Assessment refers a comprehensive assessment of individual and family conditions, functioning, and dynamics in response to a report of alleged child maltreatment and includes the CPS investigation process as defined in s. 48.981(3)(c), Stats.

In 2014, Brown County received 4,785 referrals. 1,768 were assigned to an Initial Assessment worker.

As of July 6 in 2015, Brown County received 2,506 referrals. 878 were assigned to an Initial Assessment worker.

CPS Ongoing

Ongoing services worker means the person who is responsible for the management of a case after initial assessment/investigation. In counties where a team may be assigned a case, ongoing services worker means the individual who is primarily responsible for the case.

Number of children on a Child in Need of Protection and Services (CHIPS) Order: Approximately 350

CPS Out of Home Care (Foster Care)

Out-of-home care means care provided in a foster home, treatment foster home, group home, residential care center for children and youth, secure detention facility or shelter care facility to a child for whom a permanency plan is required but does not include care provided in a secured correctional facility as defined under s.938.02(15m), Stats.

Total Number of Children in Out of Home Care: 220

Number of Children in a foster home (non-relative, TFC non relative): 79

Number of Children w/ a relative: (foster care-relative/kinship/kinship non paid/TFC relative): 110

Number of Children in a treatment facility: 9

Number of children in "other" placements (shelter care, Detention, AWOL): 12

Trial Reunification: 10

Voluntary Kinship: 315 & Court Ordered Kinship: 71

There are approximately 600 children living in out of home placements in Brown County.

Approximately 158 children in our county reached some type of permanency from January 2015 to current.

This includes: Reunification to a parent (90), Termination of Parental Rights/Adoption (12), Transfer of Guardianship (42), Independent Living /Other (24).

Statutory Definitions of Abuse and Neglect

Statutory Definitions of Abuse and Neglect Physical Abuse [Physical abuse] is defined in s. 48.02(1)(a), Stats., as "Physical injury inflicted on a child by other than accidental means." "'Physical injury' includes but is not limited to lacerations, fractured bones, burns, internal injuries, severe or frequent bruising or great bodily harm as defined under s. 939.22(14)." [Ref. s. 48.02(14g), Stats.]

Neglect Neglect is defined in s. 48.981(1)(d), Stats., as "failure, refusal or inability on the part of a caregiver [as defined in s. 48.981(1)(am), Stats.], for reasons other than poverty, to provide necessary care, food, clothing, medical or dental care or shelter so as to seriously endanger the physical health of the child."

Sexual Abuse [Sexual abuse] is defined in s. 48.02(1), Stats., as: 1) "Sexual intercourse or sexual contact under s. 940.225, 948.02 or 948.025." [Ref. s. 48.02(1)(b), Stats.] Section 940.225, Stats., addresses sexual assault of any person, and therefore includes sexual assault of a child aged 16 or 17 years old or less.

Emotional Damage is defined as "emotional damage for which the child's parent, guardian or legal custodian has neglected, refused or been unable for reasons other than poverty to obtain the necessary treatment or to take steps to ameliorate the symptoms". [Ref. s. 48.02(1)(gm), Stats.] "'Emotional damage' means harm to a child's psychological or intellectual functioning. 'Emotional damage' shall be evidenced by one or more of the following characteristics exhibited to a severe degree: anxiety; depression; withdrawal; outward aggressive behavior; or a substantial or observable change in behavior, emotional response or cognition that is not within the normal range for the child's age and stage of development." [Ref. s. 48.02(5j), Stats.]

Contact Information:

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CPS Ongoing: John Bushmaker, 920-448-6019, Bushmaker_JP@co.brown.wi.us

CPS Ongoing: Kevin Brennan, 920-448-6010, Brennan_KP@co.brown.wi.us

Foster Care & Family Support: Gena Schupp, 920-448-6252, Schupp_GM@co.brown.wi.us